

Friends of Stables Lane (FOSL)

Working Group Meeting

Tuesday 2nd September 2025 at 7pm
Boston Spa Village Hall Committee Room

Minutes

Attendees: Scott Courts (SC), Kevin Alderson (KA), Keith Jackson (KJ), Lynn Beckwith (LBe), Andy Colledge (AC), Colin Speers (CS)

Apologies: David Taylor (DT), Luke Broadbent (LBr), Geoff Shaw (GS), John Backhouse (JB)

1. Comments from the public (from 7.00 maximum of 20 minutes) – [No members of the public were in attendance](#)

2. Approval of last meeting minutes – [Approved by the group](#)

2.1 – Welcome of new member, C Speers, Chair of Governors at St. Mary's School – [Brief introduction to all attendees](#)

3. Operations, Administration and Finance

3.1. Car Park resurfacing and Bin Store update – [\(KA\) Car park will need resurfacing with a better solution, certainly in the section at the entrance. KA to investigate options, Tarmac, Block paving etc though investigation work around the drain may be required. New bin store works well, but when bin bags are very full, a tight fit.](#)

3.2. Maintenance of Park update – [\(AC\KJ\) Only lost one strut of fencing all summer, so wiring of the struts has worked well. Monthly maintenance group \(Rotary\) has stopped. Local Guides group contacted to help, AC to liaise with Guide leader. Water tap on the allotments has been repaired. AC to start replacing struts/palings at top of the fence. Cutting regime was working well \(wildflowers not mowed originally\) but seems to have changed lately. Check with KJ and discuss with Clerk. A couple of the large logs by the car park have disintegrated, and others starting to. Considering replacing with boulders as each one deteriorates. KA obtaining prices.](#)

3.3 Playground Equipment update – (KA) All in good shape. Bearings on see-saw recently replaced. KA continuing with monthly checks and quarterly reports done by Kompan.

3.4 2025 Green Flag Award update – (KJ) AC – New banner has been put up on the tennis club fence and plaque on back of the honours board. Job well done.

3.5 Replacement of Gazebo roof in South West corner of Park - (DT) The Parish Council are considering replacing the gazebo roof in the SW corner of the park due to ongoing vandalism over the years. Two quotes and third to be done when DT back from holiday. The new roof will be vandal proof, similar to the existing roof on the tennis club pavilion, and it is hoped the work will be completed by the end of the year.

3.6 Anti-Social behaviour issues and Park Patrol Update – (DT) We contacted the local police community support officer regarding the recent anti-social behaviour over the summer (litter bin fire, excess litter, broken glass etc) in the south west corner of the park and they have agreed to increase patrols in the evenings.

4. Events Update

13th July – Party in the Park Feedback – (KA\SC) Very good feedback about the event.

5. Ongoing \Future Projects

5.1 Update on Park Benches beside the tennis courts – (DT) The park benches are finally being installed adjacent to the tennis courts on Wed 3rd Sep. KJ and DT have marked the site where they will be installed and KJ has kindly agreed to be on site when the contractors arrive.

5.2 Church Street Development update – (DT) The current Church Street housing application (23/02872/FU) for 20 dwellings will have a sizable entrance to the Western end of the park and a smaller entrance in the South West area of the park between the proposed new houses. The original plan for a footpath between Lonsdale Meadows and the Southern end of the park has now been shelved as the area has been identified as a protected species area (Badgers) and so a Badger Settle will be developed. The Parish Council supports this amendment as it reduces potential anti-social behaviour around there as a lack of a footpath in that area will force all pedestrian traffic through the new development. The group did raise their disappointment around losing the access/pathway to Lonsdale Meadows and request that PC obtain further

clarification around the reasons and any other potential options for reinstatement of the access.

5.3 Table Tennis Table grant – (DT) No progress yet on grant funding for a new Table Tennis table. Will report back at the next meeting

5.4 Potential footpath from St Marys School to SE entrance of Park – (DT) We are delighted to welcome Colin Speers (Chair of Governors at St Mary's School) to the Group and hope that he will be able to assist us in progressing the development of a footpath from St Marys School to the South East of the park. (CS) Keen to support options for creating pathway access, but need to ensure site security for the school, as it hasn't been secure in the past. Another concern would be anti-social behaviour in a potential pathway area behind the garages, and how that effects neighbours.

5.5 Future 'Wishlist' – (All) To revisit when substantial funds become available

6. AOB – KJ – Bank by the car park has had new whips installed by the Green group, but not many have taken due to the dry weather, but will need to revisit to replace several whips. Made note of concerns of one of the residents by the park of the work being done.

7. Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 2nd December 7:00pm

Note for DT

KJ – Passed on apologies from Geoff Shaw. For health issues he will need to step back from the group and will request another member of the Bowling Club joins the group. DT to contact GS to pass on our thanks for his hard work and involvement in the group, and wish him well.